

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 OES-02 H-01 PM-03

SP-02 L-01 PRS-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 /041 W

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R 110900Z AUG 76

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6179

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1573

LIMDIS

NOFORN

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: TPHY CH

SUBJECT: CLAIM THAT CHINESE SCIENTISTS PREDICTED THE TANGSHAN
EARTHQUAKE

1. AN AMERICAN PROFESSOR, NIU MAN-CHIANG OF TEMPLE
UNIVERSITY, PHILADELPHIA, WHO HAS BEEN TEACHING BIOLOGY
AT PEKING UNIVERSITY THIS SUMMER, SAYS HE WAS TOLD BY
SOMEONE EMPLOYED AT PEKING'S INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGY THAT
CHINESE SEISMOLOGICAL WORKERS HAD PREDICTED AN EARTHQUAKE
IN THE TANGSHAN-TIENTSIN-PEKING AREA, BUT HAD EXPECTED IT
WOULD BE OF ONLY 4-5 MAGNITUDE. NOT WISHING TO ALARM
THE POPULACE, THE AUTHORITIES TOOK NO SPECIAL PRECAUTIONARY
MEASURES.

2. FOLLOWING THE JULY 28 EARTHQUAKE, PROFESSOR NIU AND
HIS FAMILY WERE ADVISED TO LEAVE PEKING THROUGH AUGUST 15.
IN THE COURSE OF THEIR TRAVELS, AROUND AUGUST 9, THEY
WERE ADVISED TO PROLONG THEIR ABSENCE FROM PEKING
THROUGH AUGUST 20.

3. PROFESSOR NIU STATED THE ABOVE TO A MEMBER OF THE
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U.S. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF DELEGATION AND THE USLO

ESCORT OFFICER IN ENCOUNTERS IN WUHSI AND SHANGHAI,
AUGUST 5-9.
GATES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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